

Message Text

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ACTION L-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 /024 W

-----161815Z 094528 /41

P 161510Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0289

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 06186

LIMDIS

DEPT FOR L/M MALMBORG

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: AFSP/PDIP/BE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF DEPENDENTS OF USG EMPLOYEES
IN COURT CASE

GOVERNMENT THROUGH PERMANENT DELEGATION TO NATO HAS
REQUESTED THAT TWO DEPENDENT TEENAGE SONS OF USNATO OFFICERS SUB-
MIT STATEMENT CONCERNING AN ALLEGED ASSAULT BY A TUNISIAN CITIZEN
ON A CANADIAN TEENAGE FEMALE, AND A SUBSEQUENT ASSAULT BY PERSONS
ON THE TUNISIAN CITIZEN.

BACKGROUND-

ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS OPENED A CASE AGAINST A TUNISIAN
CITIZEN FOR INDECENT ASSAULT, VIOLENCE AND THREAT ON A TEENAGE
FEMALE DEPENDENT OF A CANADIAN OFFICIAL OF NATO. THE ASSAULT
IS SAID TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE ON JUNE 7, 1976 RPT 1976.

ACCORDING TO BELGIAN SOURCES, A GROUP OF THE FEMALE,S FRIENDS SUBSE-
QUENTLY ASSAULTED THE TUNISIAN. WE DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE ATTOR-
NEY GENERAL,S DOSSIER BUT THE WRITTEN BELGIAN REQUEST FOR THE
STATEMENTS SUGGESTS THAT THE TWO US TEENAGERS HAVE BEEN IMPLICATED
BY PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ALLEGED REVENGE BRAWL.

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CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE EMBASSY BY THE FATHERS
INDICATE THAT THE TWO TEENAGERS WERE NOT RPT NOT INVOLVED IN
EITHER INCIDENT.

THE FATHER OF ONE TEENAGER IS A DOD CIVILIAN POSSESSING AN ATTACHE
TITLE. THE OTHER FATHER IS AN AIR FORCE OFFICER, LISTED AS A STAFF
EMPLOYEE OF USNATO.

PROPOSAL

WE PROPOSE THAT STATEMENTS BE PREPARED BY THE TEENAGERS AND SUBMITTED UNDER COVER OF A MEMO TO THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE BELGIAN NATO DELEGATION RATHER THAN TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SINCE THE REQUEST WAS RECEIVED THROUGH THAT CHANNEL. THE MEMO WOULD ALSO CLEARLY STATE THAT THE TEENAGERS HAVE VOLUNTARILY PREPARED THE STATEMENTS, AND ARE DEPENDENTS OF U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO ENJOY IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL AND CRIMINAL ACTION.

ACTION-

DEPARTMENT REQUESTED ADVISE TELEGRAPHICALLY IF ABOVE APPROACH ACCEPTABLE. IF NOT, REQUEST GUIDANCE AS TO POSITION WE SHOULD TAKE IN REPLY TO THE BELGIAN REQUEST.CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CRIMES, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, DEPENDENTS, TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE06186
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770215-0519
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770652/aaaabsxm.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 390e077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2134159
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF DEPENDENTS OF USG EMPLOYEES IN COURT CASE GOVERNMENT THROUGH PERMANENT DELEGATION TO NATO HA
TAGS: AFSP, PDIP, BE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/390e077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009